

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 15, 17, 19, and 20 and add new claims 21 to 31 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 5           1.       (currently amended) A method in a computer system for enabling the development of installation software, the method comprising the steps of:
- generating at least one question definition screen;
- entering at least one question on the at least one generated question definition screen, the at least one question entered being designed to solicit
- 10   information from an end user relating to a business of the end user;
- determining whether additional information relating to the business of the end user is necessary to install ~~the~~ a software package;
- if additional information is necessary, providing links to next questions to solicit additional information; and
- 15       if additional information is not necessary, storing the at least one entered question into installation software designed to solicit information from the end user relating to the business of the end user such that the software package can be installed on a system of the end user.
2.       (original)   The method of claim 1, including encrypting the
- 20   stored at least one entered question.
3.       (original)   The method of claim 1, including the step of:
- saving the at least one question prior to a determination that additional information is not necessary.
4.       (currently amended) The method of claim 1, including the step
- 25   of:
- providing links to help files, wherein such help files assist the end user in providing at least one response to the at least one question, the at least one response relating to the business of the end user.
5.       (currently amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising
- 30   the step of providing at least one default response for the at least one question, the at least one default corresponding to a generally accepted accounting principle.

6. (original) The method of claim 4, including the step of:  
emailing a question to a help reference.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus for enabling the development  
of installation software wizards, comprising:

- 5       at least one memory;  
         at least one executable file stored in the at least one memory;  
         the at least one executable file comprising at least one instruction for  
providing at least one question definition screen;  
         a monitor;
- 10       at least one processing unit ~~capable of to execute~~ executing the at least  
one instruction to display the at least one question definition screen to at least  
one intermediate user, ~~the at least one processing unit includes at least one~~  
input so the at least one intermediate user can input at least one question, the  
at least one question to solicit information from an end user relating to a  
15 business of the end user; and  
         a compiler to ~~compile~~ write all the received information, wherein the  
received information is saved.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least one  
memory, the at least one monitor, the at least one processing unit, the at least  
20 one input device, and compiler are coupled by at least one of a bus protocol, a  
wireless protocol, an intranet protocol, an extranet protocol, and html  
protocols.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least one  
memory comprises at least one help file.

25       10. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least one  
processing unit includes a security module.

11. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:  
a computer usable medium having a computer readable code embodied  
therein for processing data to develop installation software wizards to assist  
30 an end user in installing business related software on a computer system of the  
end user, the computer usable medium comprising:

a question generation module configured to generate at least one question definition screen;

a receiving module configured to receive at least one question designed to solicit information from an end user relating to a business of the end user;

5 a determining module configured to determine whether the business related software requires additional information ~~is need~~ for the business related software installation;

a linking module configured to provide links to next questions if additional information is determined to be needed to install the business related software; ~~and~~

a saving module configured to save the at least one received question; and

a compiling module configured to write the at least one received question saved by the saving module into the installation software wizard.

15 12. (original) The computer program product of claim 11, comprising:

an encryption module configured to provided encryption.

13. (original) The computer program product of claim 11, comprising:

20 a help module configured to provide help relating to the at least one question.

14. (currently amended) A method of installing software on a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying at least one software package to be installed;

25 executing at least one installation application associated with the at least one identified software package to be installed;

displaying ~~at least one~~ a first question to solicit business related information from at least one end user to install the at least one software package;

30 storing the solicited information;

determining whether a next question exists based on the received solicited information;

providing a link to the next question if it is determined a next question exists;

displaying the next question if a the next question exists; and

installing the at least one software package ~~if is a~~ the next question

5 does not exist.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of:

providing help for at least one of ~~regarding the at least one first~~  
question or the next question.;

10 16. (original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of:

saving the solicited information prior to installing the at least one software package.

15 17. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:  
a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for processing data to install business related software, the computer usable medium comprising:

an identifying module configured to identify at least one business related software package to be installed;

20 an executing module configured to execute at least one installation application associated with the at least one identified business related software package to be installed;

a displaying module configured to generate a display to solicit business related information from at least one end user, the business related  
25 information being specific to a business of the at least one end user and necessary to install the business related software package;

18. (original) The computer program product of claim 17, further comprising:

a security module configured to provide encryption.

30 19. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 17, further comprising:

a help module configured to provide help information relating to solicited business related information.

20. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 17, further comprising:

5 a save module configured to save solicited business related information relating necessary to the installation of the business related software package.

21. (new) A method for generating a software installation application to install business related software where the business related software requires business operating information from an end user to be properly installed; the method comprising the steps performed on a computer of:

identifying a plurality of business operating information necessary to install the business related software;

generating at least one edit question screen;

15 the at least one edit question screen having a first input field for an intermediate user to enter at least one question designed to solicit business operating information from an end user;

the at least one edit question screen having a second input field for the intermediate user to insert jump information, the jump information linking to at least one next question designed to solicit additional business operating information from the end user based on a plurality of possible answers from the end user to the at least one question;

inputting the at least one question and the jump information;

25 determining whether additional business operating information is necessary to complete installation of the business related software;

if additional information is necessary, generating a next question edit screen and inputting another at least one question and jump information; and

if additional information is not necessary, compiling a business software installation application using generated questions and linked generated next questions to solicit business operating information from the end user.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating at least one help definition screen for each edit question screen.
23. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of providing a default business operating information answer for each generated  
5 edit question screen.
24. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of encrypting the inputted at least one question and jump information.
25. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein the determining step includes comparing whether the inputted at least one question solicits all the  
10 plurality of business operating information necessary to install the business related software.
26. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of saving the inputted at least one question and jump information prior to compiling the business software installation application.
- 15 27. (new) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the acts of claim 1.
28. (new) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the acts of claim 21.
29. (new) A computer program product comprising:  
20 a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for processing data to create a business software installation application, the computer usable medium comprising:  
a business information solicitation module configured to generate and display an edit question screen, the edit question screen having a first input  
25 field for an intermediate user to enter a plurality of questions designed to solicit business operating information from an end user corresponding to a plurality of possible answers and a second input field for the intermediate user to insert a plurality of jump information, the plurality of jump information corresponds to the plurality of possible answers and a business installation  
30 software application to a next question based on an answer to be provided by the end user;

an input module configured to accept input from the intermediate user regarding the plurality of questions, the plurality of possible answers, and the plurality of jump information; and

5 a compiling module configured to write the plurality of questions, the plurality of possible answers, and the plurality of jump information into the business software installation application.

30. (new) The computer program product of claim 29, further comprising a processor identification module configured to obtain computer system information about the system on which the business software package  
10 is being installed.

31. (new) The computer program product of claim 30, wherein the computer information system information includes information necessary to load the computer program.

32. (new) A computer program product:  
15 a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for processing data to install a business software application, the computer usable medium comprising

an identifying module configured to identify at least one software package to be installed;

20 a displaying module configured to display at least one question inputted by an intermediate user to solicit business operating information from at least one end user needed to install the business software application;

an input module configured to receive the business operating information solicited by the displaying module; and

25 a jump module configured to jump to a next question to solicit additional business operating information from the at least one end user needed to install the business operating information, the jump module jumps to the next question based on jump information provided by the intermediate user and business operating information from the at least one end user; and

30 a system configuration module configured to install the business software application once necessary business operating information is received.